

5. (Original) A system for carrying out FT-IR spectroscopy using a scanning spectrometer and an FT-IR microscope with a moveable stage wherein the system is so arranged that incremental movement of the moveable stage is synchronized with the scan of the scanning spectrometer.
6. (Original) A system according to claim 5, wherein the movement of the movable stage is synchronized with the end of each spectrometer scan.
7. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 5 or claim 6 wherein the scanning spectrometer is arranged to operate continuously.
8. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~claim 5 any one of claims 5 to 7~~ wherein the microscope is a single detector or a small detector array type microscope.
9. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~claim 5 any one of claims 5 to 8~~ including a scan controller for controlling the scanning of the spectrometer, a data collector for producing signals from the detector or detectors of the microscope, a stage controller for controlling movement of the microscope stage and a master controller for controlling the functions of the scan controller, data collector and stage controller.
10. (Original) A system according to claim 9, wherein the end of a scan is signaled to the stage controller by a signal generated by the scan controller and transmitted to the stage controller via the data controller.